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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Reverend Jeff C. Hudson, Senior Pastor, Fredericktowne Baptist Church, Frederick, Maryland, offered the following prayer:

Our God, we acknowledge that there is none like You. You alone are all-powerful. You alone are all-knowing. You alone are present everywhere at the same time. You alone are God.

As we approach the remembrance of the tragedy of 9-11, we are reminded of all that You have done for us as a Nation this past year. You have caused us to turn to You in a time of crisis. You have brought us to our knees and we have cried out to You. You have reminded us of our Heritage that we are one Nation under God.

May that truth guide the Members of the House today as they lead our Nation, and may they acknowledge that You are the sovereign Lord of our Nation. Grant them wisdom to know what they must do. Grant them courage to do what is right. May You be honored in this place today. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. SCHAFER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. SCHAFER led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

WELCOME TO THE REVEREND JEFF C. HUDSON

(Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, I want to acknowledge and thank my constituent, Pastor Jeff Hudson of the Fredericktowne Baptist Church in Walkersville, Maryland, for offering today's opening prayer.

A graduate of the Washington Bible College and Capital Bible Seminary, Reverend Hudson is the senior pastor at Fredericktowne Baptist Church. He has served for more than 20 years. He and his wife Brenda have 2 teenage sons, Joshua and Nathan.

Pastor Hudson's invocation of God's presence in our lives continues an unbroken tradition of an Opening Prayer for the Congress. At age 81, and at a moment of deadlock during the Constitutional Convention, Benjamin Franklin said, "I have lived, sir, a long time. And the longer I live, the more convincing proofs I see of this truth, that God governs in the affairs of men. And if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without his notice, is it probable that a new Nation can rise without his aid? I therefore beg leave to move that henceforth, prayers imploring the assistance of heaven and its blessings on our deliberations be held in this assembly every morning before we proceed to any business."

Thanks to Mr. Franklin, Congress still does this.

GIVE THE PRESIDENT THE TOOLS HE NEEDS

(Mr. FOLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, as we head to the final stretch of the 107th Congress, much remains to be done. The presidential want-to-bes spend a lot of time on the Sunday talk shows in hair

and makeup articulating what their vision is for homeland security. Well, there happens to be a bill authored by our President, passed by this House, that languishes over on the other side of this building. I urge my colleagues and I urge all of those paying attention, as we come upon the September 11 anniversary where 3,000-plus lives were lost in our country, that we focus our energies and our resolve on protecting our homeland.

The President has a prescription to make America safe, and I urge the other Chamber to act upon that vision. We cannot do this alone. The House has tried. Fifty-five-plus bills remain stalled over on the desk of the majority leader of the United States Senate, and I ask and I implore someone who is listening to my voice to urge action, to urge debate, to urge passage of this vital legislation to protect this country and give the President the tools and the powers he needs.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin). The Chair reminds Members that they are not to urge action or characterize inaction by the other body.

SUPPORT THE NATIONAL AMBER ALERT NETWORK ACT

(Mr. LAMPSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, in 1997 I established the Congressional Missing and Exploited Children's Caucus to provide a unified and loud voice for missing children advocates within Congress. The gentleman from Florida (Mr. FOLEY) and 157 other Members work with me in this caucus today. While the caucus works to advance child safety legislation, we are also initiating

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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